

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/507,769

Applicant(s)

PASSMAN ET AL.

Examiner

Camie S. Thompson

Art Unit

1774

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to Amendment filed 3/25/05.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-3,5,7 and 9-20.
3. ☐ The drawings filed on _____ are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

The application has been amended as follows: Claims 17-20 are cancelled.

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The prior art does not provide for a fiber reinforced composite material comprising: a fiber reinforced polymer substrate; a first polymeric layer coating the fiber reinforced polymer substrate for joining two different polymeric composites, the first polymeric layer being free of fibers and particulate; a second polymeric layer coating the first polymeric layer, the second polymeric layer comprising a polymeric matrix and a particulate with the polymeric matrix, wherein the second polymeric layer contains about 20 to 85 weight percent particulate and wherein the particulate in the second polymeric layer is a metal; and at least one thermally sprayed material coating the second polymeric layer to form an adherent multi-layer coating attached to the fiber reinforced polymer substrate, the multi-layer coating being attached to the fiber reinforced polymer substrate with a tensile strength of at least about 10 MPa.
 1. Additionally, the prior art does not provide for a fiber reinforced composite material comprising: a fiber reinforced polymer substrate; a first epoxy layer coating the fiber reinforced
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polymer substrate for joining two different polymeric composites, the first epoxy layer being free of fibers and particulate; a second epoxy layer coating the first epoxy layer, the second epoxy layer comprising an epoxy matrix and a particulate within the epoxy matrix, wherein the particulate in the second epoxy layer is a metal; and at least one thermally sprayed material coating the second polymeric layer to form an adherent multi-layer coating attached to the fiber reinforced polymer substrate, the multi-layer coating being attached to the fiber reinforced polymer substrate with a tensile strength of at least about 10 MPa.

Also, the prior art does not provide for a process of applying a coating on a fiber reinforced composite material comprising the steps of:

- a) applying a first polymeric layer to a fiber reinforced polymer substrate, the first polymeric layer being free of fibers and particulate;
- b) applying a second polymeric layer coating to the first polymeric layer to join the fiber reinforced polymer substrate to the second polymeric layer using the first polymeric layer as a bonding agent, the second polymeric layer comprising a polymeric matrix and a particulate with the polymeric matrix; and
- c) thermal spraying a material to coat the second polymeric layer with the first and second polymeric layers protecting the fiber reinforced polymer substrate.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

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Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Camie S. Thompson whose telephone number is 571-272-1530.

The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 8:00 am - 4:30 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Rena L. Dye can be reached on 571-272-3186. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


RENA DYE
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER

A.U. 1774 6/13/05